

Application No. 10/773,894
Amendment dated May 16, 2008
Reply to Office Action January 2, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for associating a price indicia with each of a first content file and at least a second content file stored at a content database of a content distribution facility, each of the first and at least second content files authored by content creators, said apparatus comprising:

a content creator database forming an author index that indexes a listing of content creators together with historical indicia associated with respective content creators, said historical indicia including indicia of historical demand for content files authored by the respective content creators indexed together therewith;

an initial price indicia associator adapted to receive content indicia associated with each of the first and at least second content files stored at the content database and adapted to access said content creator database, said initial price indicia associator for initially pricing each of the first and at least second content files with initial price indicia, the initial price indicia being based on said historical demand for other content files authored by the respective content creators of each of said first and at least second content files; and

a price indicia adjuster adapted to receive indications of the initial price indicia that said initial price indicia associator associates with each of the first and at least second content files and to receive indications of demand for each of the first and at least second content files, said price indicia adjuster for adjusting the initial price indicia responsive to the demand therefore and for forming adjusted price indicia associated with each of the first and at least second content files.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the initial price indicia with which said initial price indicia associator associates with the first and at least second content files is directly related, at least in a stepwise manner, with the historical demand.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the historical indicia indexed together with the content creator at the author index formed at said content creator database categorizes the historical demand into a first historical demand level at least a second historical demand level.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first content file and the at least the second content file stored at the content database is at least selectively available for delivery to content consumers and wherein the indications of the demand to which said price indicia adjuster is adapted to receive are indications related to inquiries relating to individual ones of the first and at least second content files.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein copies of the first and at least second content files are at least selectively available for purchase by the content consumers and wherein the inquiries selecting to the individual ones of the first and at least second content files comprise inquiries relating to purchase of copies of the individual ones of the first and at least second content files.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the inquiries relating to the purchase of the copies of the individual ones of the first and at least second content files comprise indications of purchase requests made by the content consumers.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the inquiries relating to the purchase of the copies of the individual ones of the first and at least second content files comprise indications of purchase completions made by the content consumers.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said price indicia adjuster is adapted to interactively adjust the adjusted price indicia associated with each of the first and at least second content files.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the indications of demand to which said price indicia adjuster is adapted to receive are applied to said price indicia adjuster at least at successive intervals, dynamically to receive the indications of the demand, and wherein said price indicia adjuster is adapted to further successively form the adjusted price indicia responsive to the indications of the demand received at the at least the successive intervals.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the adjusted price indicia formed by said price indicia adjuster formed at least at the successive intervals is adapted to incrementally change prior-formed values of the adjusted price indicia.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a revenue allocator adapted to receive the indications of demand, said revenue allocator for allocating revenues associated with the first and at least second content files.

15. (Currently amended) A method for distributing content stored at a content database, the content formed of a first content file and at least a second content file, the first and at least second content files authored by content creators, said method for associating a price indicia with each of the first and at least second content files stored at the content database, said method comprising:

associating historical indicia with the content creators, the historical indicia including indicia of historical demand for content files authored by respective content creators indexed together therewith;

initially pricing each of the first and at least second content files with initial price indicia responsive to the historical demand for other content files authored by the respective content creators of each of the first and at least second content files; and

adjusting the initial price indicia with which the first and at least second content files are initially priced during said operation of initially pricing responsive to indications of demand for each of the first and at least second content files to form adjusted price indicia associated with each of the first and at least second content files.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein copies of the first content file and the at least the second content file each are at least selectively available for delivery to content consumers and wherein the indications of the demand for each of the first and at least second content files comprise indications of requests made by the content consumers comprise indications related to at least requests for copies of selected ones of the first and at least second content files.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein said operation of adjusting the initial price indicia further comprises adjusting the adjusted price indicia.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein adjustments to the adjusted price indicia during said operation of adjusting are performed incrementally.

21. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the initial price indicia formed is adjusted based on the delivery mechanism by which content is delivered to a respective content consumer.

22. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the initial price indicia formed is adjusted based on whether a respective content consumer is a commercial content consumer or a non-commercial content consumer.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the operation of initially pricing further comprises initially pricing each of the first and at least second content files responsive also to the delivery mechanism by which content is delivered to a respective content consumer.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the operation of initially pricing further comprises initially pricing each of the first and at least second content files responsive to whether a respective content consumer is a commercial content consumer or a non-commercial content consumer.